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Saluces, Sept. 11. *N. S.*

THE Duke of Savoy arrived here on the 6th Inſtant, without any General Officer in Company with him; having left Prince Eugene, with all the Foreign Troops under his Command, to paſs the Mountains of Tende, as his Royal Highneſs himſelf came over thoſe of Fenestre, and from thence through the Valley of St. Martin; by which Route his Troops are to march after him. The Army was to have aſſembled at Vigon on the 14th; but the Troops now take that Place only in their Way to Scalin, which is at preſent appointed for the general Rendezvous of the Forces. Upon a Diſcovery made to his Royal Highneſs and Prince Eugene, That the Counteſs of Soiſſons, Widow to the Count of that Name, eldeſt Brother to Prince Eugene, held ſome Correſpondence with the Enemy, and deſigned to make her Eſcape into France, with the Princeſs her Daughter; his Royal Highneſs has thought fit to admit of the Counteſs's Departure into France, and to take the Daughter into his own Care. The Princeſs is conducted to Turin, where ſhe is to be treated with all manner of Diſtinction, as are alſo the three young Princes her Brothers, who, with her, are all the Children of the late Count de Soiſſons. We cannot yet be exact in the Account of what Execution our Fleet did upon the Enemy's Works and Shipping before our Departure from Toulon. But on the 22d of the laſt Month, about one of the Clock in the Morning, his Royal Highneſs and Prince Eugene placed themſelves on a convenient Eminence to obſerve the Troops march off, where they had the Satisfaction to ſee the Bomb-Veſſels ſet fire to ſome great Ships in the Port, which continu'd burning with great Vehemence all the Time they ſtay'd. Some Officers, who were of the laſt that marched off, affirm, they ſaw 7 or 8 Ships in Flames when they left the Place. The Bomb-Veſſels continued to fling their Shells till 7 in the Morning; at w[illegible]r, the Enemy having juſt finiſhed a Battery of [illegible]es of Cannon, that commanded thoſe Veſſels from the Shore, they were obliged to retire.

Neufchatel, Sept. 16. On the 10th Inſtant the Tribunal ſate; and publick Notice was given, That all the Pretenders to the Succeſſion might then lay in their Claims, and produce the Deeds on which they grounded their Titles. The firſt who appeared were the Deſcendants of the Houſe of Chalon, and are, the King of Pruſſia, the Prince of Montbelliard, Madame de Maillé, and the Marquis d'Allegre. After theſe were heard the Perſons who derive their Right from the Houſe of Longueville, who were, the Prince of Carignan, Madame de Leſdiguieres, and Monſieur de Matignon. Madame de Soiſſons made a ſeparate Claim from the reſt, as inſiſting on the Gift of Madame de Nemours. The Court has been taken up ſeveral Days in reading the Inſtruments on which theſe ſeveral Competitors fix their Demands: That Work will require ſome longer time before the Lawyers can begin to plead. The laſt Day on which there was a Court, they entred upon no other Buſineſs, than giving Audience to a Deputy from the Catholick Cantons of Solleure, Fribourg, and Lucerne, who preſented a Proteſt againſt the Authority of the Tribunal, and their Proceedings; both which were alledged to be inſufficient, by reaſon the Vaſſals of thoſe Cantons were excluded from aſſiſting in them. The Attorney-General, in Behalf of the Sovereignty and People, made a Counter-Proteſt: Whereupon the Tribunal pronounced the Proteſt of the Cantons null and void, and would not admit of its being regiſtred. The Deputy was diſmiſſed with no other Reply than, That they would ſend an Anſwer to his Principals in due Time. Theſe Catholick Cantons being remarkably devoted to the Intereſts of France, and the Proteſt being procured by the Pope's Interceſſion, in Conjunction with the French Ambaſſador, this Expedient has had no other Effect than to confirm thoſe who were before in the Intereſts of the Proteſtant Pretender, and to bring over many who had been zealous for the Prince of Conti. At the ſame time the Canton of Berne communicated to the Three States a Letter they had received from the King of Sweden, recommending the King of Pruſſia's Pretenſions to their Care; in which his Swediſh Majeſty very earneſtly urges the Conſideration of Religion in their Choice. This Letter has had apparent good Effects; and, 'tis thought, will ſilence the Threats of the French Court. We hear from Geneva, That a publick Faſt has been very ſtrictly obſerved there, in Acknowledgment of their great Deliverance from the late Conſpiracy againſt the State. They have iſſued a general Pardon to all that were engaged in that horrid Deſign.

We are very well aſſured, That the Confederates have done much more Damage at Toulon than the French are willing to own. There are Letters from Provence, as well as from Piedmont, which ſay, they have burnt 14 Men of War, deſtroyed the Workhouſe for Cordage, with what Stores were in it, reduced to Aſhes 300 Houſes, and raz'd ſeveral Forts about the Place.

From the Camp at Helchin, Sept. 22. The Army commanded by his Grace the Duke of Marlborough continues ſtill in the Camp of Helchin, and that of the Enemy between Tournay and Lille; where, beſides the natural Strength of their Camp, they are adding new Works for the Defence of it, and taking all poſſible Precautions to prevent our attacking them.

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